

Senate Resolution 1096

By: Senators Fort of the 39th and Tate of the 38th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the exhibit "From a Culture of Violence to a Culture of Peace: Transforming
2 the Human Spirit"; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on March 15, 2008, over 2,000 youth division representative members of the
4 SGI-USA Atlanta Region and surrounding states will gather for the SGI-USA South Zone
5 General Meeting at Martin Luther King, Jr., International Chapel on the Morehouse College
6 campus; and

7 WHEREAS, at this time, The Gandhi Institute for Peace and Reconciliation and the
8 SGI-USA will present the exhibit "From A Culture of Violence to a Culture of Peace:
9 Transforming the Human Spirit" at Martin Luther King, Jr., International Chapel; and

10 WHEREAS, the development of this exhibit was inspired by the tenacious commitment of
11 Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and his wife, Kaneko Ikeda, to the power of dialogue, intercultural
12 exchanges, education, and citizen diplomacy to create a climate of peace throughout the
13 world; and

14 WHEREAS, Daisaku Ikeda is the president of the Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a
15 Buddhist association of more than 12 million members in 190 countries and territories, and
16 founder of educational, cultural, and research institutions; and

17 WHEREAS, the SGI-USA is a nongovernmental organization accredited by the United
18 Nations and has been an active contributor to the Atlanta community for more than 30 years;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, since his youth, Dr. Ikeda has continuously advanced a movement for
21 nonviolent social change rooted in the principles of Buddhist humanism; and

1 WHEREAS, as a result of his unsparing efforts to contribute to sustainable peace and human
2 security, Dr. Ikeda's philosophy of nonviolence now reaches every corner of the globe
3 through his award-winning poetry and photography, philosophical writings, essays,
4 university lectures, novels, and children's literature as well as 14 published dialogues with
5 the world's leading scholars, artists, scientists, and policy makers; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Kaneko Ikeda has also been honored by numerous educational and
7 international organizations for her tireless efforts, alongside Dr. Ikeda, in promoting a
8 philosophy of character development and social engagement for peace; and

9 WHEREAS, it is only fitting that the State of Georgia with its honorable history as a cradle
10 of justice, civil rights, and human dignity be one of the first designated sites for the showing
11 of this exhibit.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
13 join together in recognizing the exhibit "From a Culture of Violence to a Culture of Peace:
14 Transforming the Human Spirit."

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
16 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and Mrs. Kaneko
17 Ikeda.